



## News & Notes

*Working for a Vibrant and Innovative Agriculture Industry*

### Message from the President Allan Carruthers

The summer of 2024 has almost come to an end. Fall fairs are upon us where we get to celebrate and educate our neighbours. This summer gave us some challenges in Northumberland with frequent rains interrupting our hay and grain harvest which for the most part had average to above average yields. Our market prices have not been as high as previous years, so locking in some target prices is a good idea. The neighborhood is constantly changing, presenting more and more challenges affecting how we conduct

our day to day lives on the farm. As harvest draws nearer for the oilseeds and for corn crops safety is very important to us and our families. Please take care on the busy roads and make sure the other travellers see you. If anyone has any concerns please contact one of your NFA directors and pass on the information and concerns. Safe harvest everyone and come out to our annual meeting October 4th and enjoy some entertainment.

*Allan*

#### Inside this issue:

Resi's Report	2
Quinte Wall of Fame	2
More Energy Hurdles	3
Migrant BBQ	3
Mental Health Moment	3
Annual Banquet	4
Poli-Ag Tour	4

IT'S ONTARIO  
AGRICULTURE WEEK!



OCTOBER  
7-13th

#ONTAgWeek

### Notes from OFA Ontario Federation of Agriculture It is Resolution Time!

What is a resolution and why is it time? You may remember reading my campaign propaganda a year ago when I talked about OFA taking your voice to the provincial government and beyond. A resolution to the board is one of the ways to start that process. Technically anytime is resolution time, but the best time is now, so your resolution can be presented to the delegates at the AGM in November. Your resolution will be read aloud and all the delegates in the room will have a chance to speak on it, and the board listens carefully. As a delegate, I enjoyed this part of the AGM, rising to the mic to be part of the discussion. If your resolution is successful it will come before the board where the directors will decide how to proceed. We consider factors such

as, does the issue have provincial significance, is it within the mandate of OFA, what is the likelihood of success, and what resources may be required. Remembering that resources and staff time are finite, for every job we give them, something else must be given up. This part of my job as a director is not easy.

If you have a concern you feel is resolution worthy, you have several options. You can contact any local board member, your MSR Resi Walt, or myself. If you are feeling really bold, you can go it alone, however there is a reason I mentioned this option last.

**Brian Crews, OFA director Zone 12**

# Resi's Report OFA Member Service Rep

## NFA Directors 2024

### President

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carruthersallan@gmail.com

### Past President

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### Vice President

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### PAC Member

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### Hamilton - Paul Burnham

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### Quinte West - Brian Crews

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### OFA Members Service Rep

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resi.walt@ofa.on.ca

### Northumberland County Rep

**Trissia Mellor**,  
905-372-3329 ext. 6492



Miss any newsletters or want to find an old one? Try out this QR Code to take you right to the

## Home Grown

If you are looking to share information about the importance of farmland preservation in your networks and on social media, check out OFA's revamped site at [homegrownofa.ca](http://homegrownofa.ca)

## In the Know Workshops

In the Know was developed at the Ontario Veterinary College (University of Guelph) to educate the agricultural community. The workshop was created in collaboration with stakeholder groups, including various agricultural sectors, mental health literacy trainers, government and representatives from social work, psychology, epidemiology, and education.

Data from a pilot ran in 2019, showed the course increased participants' mental health knowledge and confidence in recognizing mental health struggles, speaking about mental health, and helping others who are struggling. Spearheaded by Dr. Briana Hagen and Dr. Andria Jones-Bitton of the Department of Population Medicine at the University of Guelph, and a stakeholder team from farming and mental health backgrounds, In the Know aims to build mental health knowledge and increase help-seeking among farmers.

The agriculture community faces unique challenges that cause increased rates of stress, mental health issues and suicide among farmers, compared to other professions and industries.

**Interested in joining a Workshop? Check out upcoming dates here:** <https://agriculturewellnessontario.ca/in-the-know/>

## International Plowing Match 2024

Join OFA at IPM, October 1-5 in Kawartha Lakes.

The address for Tented City is Lindsay Exhibition 354 Angeline St. S, Lindsay, ON 8:30 AM – 5 PM each day

"The International Plowing Match and Rural Expo (IPM) is a five-day celebration of agriculture and rural living. There are plowing competitions, a range of activities for people of all ages, numerous opportunities to learn about agriculture, near-constant live entertainment in multiple Match venues, hundreds of vendors and exhibitors (large and small equipment, lifestyle items and much more), a wide variety of food, and RV Park."

## OFA's newest member benefit

OFA has partnered with Hearing Life Canada to give our members better access to the largest network of hearing healthcare providers in Canada. [ofa.on.ca/benefit/hearinglife/](http://ofa.on.ca/benefit/hearinglife/)

## Hey Teachers!

Do you know any teachers looking for some inspiration this school year? How about some parents doing home schooling? AgScape provides factual, balanced, curriculum linked food literacy programs and resources for Ontario's educators and students. And if you aren't teaching any grade one to twelve kids, it is great to see what is available as a window to our agriculture food producing industry.

Check them out! <https://agscape.ca/resources>



## Northumberland Farmers Inducted to Wall of Fame

On Sept. 15th at Farmtown Park in Stirling, Northumberland farmer **Peter Stewart** will be inducted to the Quinte Agriculture Wall of Fame. This honour is given to individuals in the Quinte area who have made an outstanding contribution to the agriculture and food industry at the local, provincial and/or national level.

Take some time and visit the wall and see all the people in this area who have made a difference to our industry. If you can't go in person check out the digital version.

<https://agheritage.ca/quinte-agricultural-hall-of-fame/2006-2012>

## Be Social

Like us on Facebook:  
[@OFAzone12](https://www.facebook.com/OFAzone12)



Follow on  
Twitter:  
[@ResiWalt](https://twitter.com/ResiWalt)

[www.FARM911.ca](http://www.FARM911.ca)

*Resi*

# The Quest to Generate More Energy

Land Agents have been circulating in the Northumberland area searching for locations to submit for energy production. Hydro will be building and upgrading other regional transmission corridors in the coming years to fill the projected demand for electricity. Are you prepared? OFA has valuable resources to help you ask the right questions. These resources also have links to the Law Society of Ontario Legal Services where you can access lawyers by area of expertise and location. Information is power in your hands so take some time to check out these links.

June 17, 2024 - [OFA Letter to Attorney General Downey re Expropriation Concerns](#)

May 9, 2024 - [OFA Factsheet Cropland out of production in a right-of-way, lease or easement agreement](#)

April 4, 2024 - [OFA Webinar – Easements on Farm Properties](#)

Feb. 23, 2022 – [OFA Factsheet Land Easements and Acquisitions Under Infrastructure Projects \(rev. June 17, 2024\)](#)



## It's Fair Season



The Agriculture Societies are in full swing hosting their fairs in the area. So many volunteers are needed to keep these events going so if you think you can spare a little time to help them in any way contact them and get involved. So many of the Ag events can't continue without people to help and it is a strong tie to consumers who are far removed from where their food comes from.

Here is a link to all of the fairs in our district.

<https://ontarioagsocieties.com/our-fairs/?district=12>

Lend a hand and keep this fall tradition going strong.



## FARMER wellness program

NORTHUMBERLAND

Don't struggle talk to someone. It's free!

[www.farmerwellnessprogram.ca](http://www.farmerwellnessprogram.ca)

Candice or Michael would be happy to hear from you

**Start cover cropping!**  
New intake for cost-share funding

**OPEN NOW**

**CHECK OUT THE PROGRAM GUIDE**

The Ontario On-Farm Climate Action Fund (OFCAF) provides cost-share funding to farmers to support the implementation of best management practices (BMPs) to tackle climate change through reducing emissions of GHGs and supporting increased carbon sequestration. Cost-share support to farmers is available under the project categories of nitrogen management, cover cropping, and rotational grazing.

In Ontario, the OFCAF is delivered to farmers by the Ontario Soil and Crop Improvement Association (OSCIA). Application intake dates are held between April 1, 2022 and March 31, 2025.



Happy Thanksgiving

## Mental Health Moment

Have you heard about the two great councillors working for the Farmer Wellness Program? They are here to help you take care of your mental health. Take advantage of this members benefit of four free sessions.



**Michael**  
(705) 999-7916  
[www.mdoriscounsellingservices.com](http://www.mdoriscounsellingservices.com)



**Candice**  
(416) 655-4285  
[www.candicebeach.com/](http://www.candicebeach.com/)

## NFA Partners with Horizons of Friendship for Migrant Workers



In September the migrant workers in Northumberland enjoyed a BBQ in Victoria Park Cobourg. Horizons of Friendship and NFA partnered to provide food and fellowship in appreciation of their hard work to produce food locally. They are a long way away from family and friends working in the elements and helping farmers fill the employee void many suffer.

Smiles and laughter filled the afternoon and the chatter of other languages surrounded the Cobourg park.



NORTHUMBERLAND FEDERATION OF AGRICULTURE

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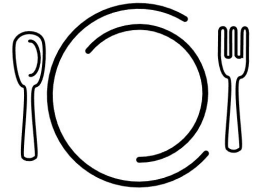
@NorthumberlandFederationofAgriculture  
 #northumberlandag

We're on the web  
[www.ofa.on.ca/about/county-federation-sites/northumberland.aspx](http://www.ofa.on.ca/about/county-federation-sites/northumberland.aspx)



# The NFA Annual Banquet

Will be held on Friday, October 4, 2024  
7pm Dinner will be at  
Alderville Community Center,  
8913 Hwy. #45, Roseneath, ON  
Cost is **\$30.00** per person.



We will be entertained by a local band "Toast"  
Please contact your local director to get your tickets.

"Cash bar only no debit."

*Lisa*

Did you see them?



## "TOAST"

Bringing you  
Classic Rock and Pop  
from the 50's through the 2000's



Bring your dancing shoes and enjoy the evening.  
Tickets available from your local director \$30 ea.



### Gadgets

Digital resource that you may find useful.

#### Trends in Agriculture Apps

Check out this article about the trend to simplify and partner apps so you don't need to have an app for every individual thing.

[www.crop-life.com/editorial/best-agriculture-apps/#slide=88915-81611-34](http://www.crop-life.com/editorial/best-agriculture-apps/#slide=88915-81611-34)

Frames by Agworld is proposing to be "connect the industry". It would be great to have one that does all app.

[www.agworld.com/ca/new/frames-by-agworld/](http://www.agworld.com/ca/new/frames-by-agworld/)



### NFA has Vacant Spots on our Board

If you have an interest in working with politicians to steer policy in a helpful direction for our industry; instilling awareness for consumers to understand what agriculture is all about for a secure food supply; supporting our members; then this is the job for you!

Connect with a director and take the next step.



## Poli-Ag Tour 2024 for Northumberland

In August, the Northumberland Federation of Agriculture (NFA) hosted the annual tour for municipal councillors and staff across Northumberland. The day kicked off at the Ganaraska Conservation Authority Yard, where we boarded a bus for our first destination. Our "Christmas in August" experience began at



Barratt Tree Farm. Here, we enjoyed a wagon ride through their tree plantation and learned about the farm's journey and the challenges they face. Next, we visited Garden Hill Market. The vibrant colors and delightful aromas from their produce were invigorating. This burgeoning farm business is dedicated to providing fresh, locally grown food and is passionate about experimenting with methods to extend the growing season. Our final stop was The Dancing Bee. We explored the many facets of their apiary business and gained insight into the crucial role pollinators play in agriculture. It was inspiring to see how their work supports numerous bee colonies. This tour was a crucial opportunity to enhance communication between policymakers and the agriculture sector, fostering teamwork for Northumberland's future.